Amendments

In the Claims:

This list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as set forth below.

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A copier system comprising:

a copier capable of being monitored by a personal computer from a remote location, the copier comprising a control computer controlling the performance of the copier, and a control panel configured to receive data from the control computer;

a chip corresponding to the copier, the chip providing an interface for connecting the copier with a bi-directional network, said bi-directional network being capable of connecting the personal computer to a plurality of devices, and

a memory device corresponding to the copier, the memory device storing data comprising a special information to identify the copier in the network, the memory device capable of retaining data if power to the memory device is removed,

wherein:

said chip transmits the special information to the personal computer and identifies the copier remotely in the network and enables recognition of the copier by a database manager of the personal computer, and

the control computer is configured to:

receive a copier control command from the personal computer; and

transmit via the chip to the personal computer a copier status information in response to a request for status information received from the personal computer.

17. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 16, wherein the chip converts serial data transmitted from the personal computer into parallel data and converts parallel data transmitted from the copier into serial data.

18. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 16, further comprising the network wherein the network comprises a plurality of lines, each of the plurality of lines having at least a pair of signal lines transmitting asynchronous serial data.

19. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 18, wherein the plurality of lines comprise four signal lines having the pair of signal lines.

20. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 19, wherein the pair of signal lines comprise a hard wiring.

Claims 21-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 18, wherein the chip is a microprocessor.

26. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 25, wherein the microprocessor is connected to an address decoder.

27. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claims 18, further comprising the personal computer, wherein a condition of the copier and setup parameters, a copy count and error codes of the copier are displayed on a display screen of the personal computer.

28. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claims 18, wherein the control panel comprises a light emitting diode.

29. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claims 18, wherein the control panel comprises a liquid crystal display.

30. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 18, wherein the control panel comprises a plurality of keys.

31. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 18, wherein an error status signal is sent from the control computer to the control panel.

32. (Currently Amended) A copier system capable of being monitored and controlled by a remote computer, the copier system comprising:

a copier machine;

a computer controller housed in the copier machine and configured to generate a status of the copier machine; and

an interface for connecting the copier system with the remote computer by a bi-directional communication line connected to the remote computer, the interface comprising:

a microprocessor;

a memory storing a special information and being capable of retaining the special information if power to the copier system is removed;

a circuit for converting a first parallel data stream from the microprocessor into a first serial data stream and for converting a second serial data stream from the remote computer into a second parallel data stream which the microprocessor processes; and

a driver circuit capable of transmitting the first serial data stream over the bi-directional communication line,

wherein:

the special information identifies the copier and enables recognition of the copier by a database manager operating on the remote computer, and

the computer controller is configured to:

receive a copier machine control command from the personal computer; and

transmit to the personal computer via the interface a copier machine status information in response to a request for status information received from the personal computer.

33. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 32, wherein the microprocessor is connected to an address decoder.

34. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 32, wherein the remote computer is a personal computer.

35. (Currently Amended) The copier system according to claim 32, wherein the status of the copier machine monitored by the remote computer comprises ~~at least one of setup parameters, a copy count and error codes~~ a setup parameter of the copier, and wherein data representing ~~at least one of~~ the setup parameter is ~~parameters, copy count and error codes of the copier are~~ transmitted via the interface to the remote computer in a format enabling a representation of the data to be displayed on a display screen of the remote computer.

36. (Currently Amended) A copier system comprising:

a copier capable of being monitored by a personal computer from a remote location, the personal computer being connected to the copier system via a network, the network comprising a pair of wires to bi-directionally transmit serial data;

a memory corresponding to the copier, the memory storing a special information to identify the copier and enables recognition of the copier by a database manager operating

on the personal computer, the memory capable of retaining data if power to the memory is removed; and

a universal asynchronous receiver/transmitter for transmitting the special information to the personal computer through the network, the universal asynchronous receiver/transmitter converting parallel data used by said copier into serial data to be placed on the pair of wires,

wherein , the copier is configured to:

receive a copier control command from the personal computer; and

transmit via the network to the personal computer a copier status information in response to a request for status information received from the personal computer.

37. (Previously Presented) The copier system according to claim 36, wherein a status of the copier monitored by the personal computer comprises ~~at least one of setup parameters, a copy count and error codes~~ a setup parameter of the copier, and wherein data representing ~~at least one of~~ the setup parameter is ~~parameters, copy count and error codes of the copier are~~ transmitted via the universal asynchronous receiver/transmitter to the personal computer to be displayed on a display screen of the personal computer.

38. (New) The copier system of claim 16, wherein the control computer is further configured to transmit real time copier status information to the remote computer.

39. (New) The copier system of claim 32, wherein the computer controller is further configured to transmit real time copier machine status information to the remote computer.